



Republic of the Philippines  
**Department of Education**

REGION I  
SCHOOLS DIVISION OF THE CITY OF BATAC

Advisory No. **043**, s. 2026  
**12 FEB 2026**

In compliance with DepEd Order (DO) No. 8, s. 2013  
this advisory is issued not for endorsement per DO 28, s. 2001,  
but only for the information of DepEd officials,  
personnel/staff, as well as the concerned public.  
(Visit [www.deped.gov.ph](http://www.deped.gov.ph))

**SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING AND MATHEMATICS (STEM)  
FESTIVAL**

In reference to the letter from the Campus Director of the Philippine Science High School – Ilocos Region Campus in Ilocos Sur, the school shall conduct the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Festival on March 5-6, 2026.

The activity aims to foster curiosity, encourage critical thinking, and inspire the next generation of innovators in the Ilocos Region.

Relative to this, all public and private elementary schools of the Schools Division of the City of Batac are encouraged to participate in the activity on a voluntary basis. Deadline of Pre-registration will be on February 20, 2026 through the link: <https://bit.ly/STEMFestival2026>.

All precautionary and safety measures must be strictly observed and implemented during participation to the activity to ensure the protection and safety of all students and teachers. Likewise, the activity should be guided by DepEd guidelines and guidelines for the off-campus activity and DepEd Order No. 9, s. 2005 titled “Instituting Measures to Increased Engaged Time-on-Task and Ensuring Compliance Therewith.

For further details and queries, please see the letter from the Philippine Science High School – Ilocos Region Campus herein attached.

For information.

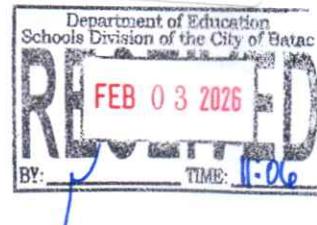
*[Handwritten signatures]*  
CID-GBL/STEM Festival  
2602023/26095/February 12, 2026



January 29, 2026

 SDCB RECORDS UNIT  
2602023

**DR. ANSELMO R. ALUDINO, CESO VI**  
Schools Division Superintendent  
Department of Education – Division of Batac City  
Batac City, Ilocos Norte



Dear SDS Aludino:

Greetings in the name of service!

In a technology-driven world, it is vital that our students move beyond the classroom curriculum to experience the real-world applications of **Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM)**. With this, we would like to invite elementary schools across the region to participate in the activities planned for our **STEM Festival** on March 5-6, 2026. The goal of this celebration is to foster curiosity, encourage critical thinking, and inspire the next generation of innovators in the Ilocos Region.

Specifically, we are inviting interested **Grade 5-6 pupils** to participate in the different contested activities in line with our celebration. The following are the specific details of the activity:

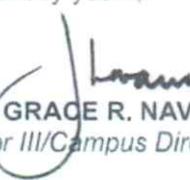
Date	Time	Activity	Venue
Feb. 20, 2026		Last Day of Pre-Registration	Online Link for Pre-Registration: <a href="https://bit.ly/STEMFestival2026">https://bit.ly/STEMFestival2026</a>
	7:30 AM - 8:45 AM	Arrival and Attendance	PSHS IRC Campus Gymnasium
	8:45 AM - 9:00 AM	Briefing of Participants	PSHS IRC Campus Gymnasium
<b>Contest Proper</b>			
March 6, 2026		Mathematics-Statistics Trail	PSHS IRC Grounds
	9:00 AM - 2:30 PM	The Last Element Standing: Escape the Lab	PSHS IRC Grounds & Computer Laboratory
		Bio & Research Quest: Concepts and Skills Challenge	ASTB Lobby & Alpha Classroom
		Junior Innovators: TechnoPhysics Design Challenge	ASTB 3F Sigma Classroom
	2:30 PM - 4:00 PM	Closing and Awarding Program	PSHS IRC ASTB Lobby

- Link to Consolidated Activity Guidelines: <https://tinyurl.com/4eshse4t>

Attached herewith is a copy of the contest guidelines. Should you need further assistance, please feel free to contact **Ms. Mary Ann R. Lagua**, CID Chief, through [cid@irc.pshs.edu.ph](mailto:cid@irc.pshs.edu.ph) or 09272675513.

We look forward to your partnership as we work together to inspire the next generation of innovators and promote excellence in science education for our nation.

Respectfully yours,

  
**MARY GRACE R. NAVARRO, EdD**  
Director III/Campus Director

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**2026 STEM FESTIVAL**  
**GUIDELINES for DEPED CONTESTS**

**I. MATH/STAT TRAIL (DEPED, GRADE 5-6)**

Pre-registration Link: <https://bit.ly/STEMFestival2026>  
Deadline of Pre-Registration: **February 20, 2026**

**DATE OF COMPETITION:**

MARCH 6, 2026 || 8:00 AM - 9:00 PM  
(Registration and Orientation)

MARCH 6, 2026 || 9:00 AM - 2:30 PM  
(Contest Proper)

**VENUE OF COMPETITION:**

PSH IRC Grounds

For inquiries, contact Mr. Ronnie R. Calanno (+63 998 538 0485, [calannorr@irc.pshs.edu.ph](mailto:calannorr@irc.pshs.edu.ph)) or  
Mr. Jonathan C. Montero (+63 39 862 0220, [monterojc@irc.pshs.edu.ph](mailto:monterojc@irc.pshs.edu.ph))

**A. Participants (Team)**

The school should send one team of **three (3) members composed of two (2) Grade 5 pupils and one (1) Grade 6 pupil**.

**B. Mechanics**

1. There are 12 stations to play in this activity.
2. Participants should wear a BLUE shirt. It is recommended that they also bring extra clothes to change into afterward.
3. The things that the team will expect to do in each station are the following:
  - 1<sup>st</sup> STOP: Do Minute to Win It Challenge (2 pts)
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> STOP: Answer Easy Question (2 pts)
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> STOP: Do Extra Challenge (3 pts)
  - 4<sup>th</sup> STOP: Answer Average Question (3 pts)
4. If the team fails to accomplish the Minute to Win It Challenge in 3 attempts, they can answer the EASY question. Then, they may proceed immediately to the Extra challenge, whether their answer is correct or wrong.
5. If the team fails to accomplish the Extra Challenge, they CANNOT answer the AVERAGE question.
6. The facilitator in each station will sign the scoring paper. If the paper is lost, the players may get another scoring paper from the facilitator and return to the stations for signature.
7. The team will go to the first station of their choice and then look for other available stations for the next ones. The team will be given a total of 90 minutes to play. There should only be a maximum of 2 teams to be accommodated in every station.
8. In this activity, the team is NOT forcibly required to do all the consequences in each station. They may take it or leave it. If they feel like quitting in the middle of the game, they may leave the station and go to the next, but they are not allowed to go back and redo the challenge or station.

- If the team finishes before the allotted time (90 minutes), an additional one (1) point will be merited for every two (2) minutes in advance (maximum of 10 minutes). If the team fails to report to the starting point before the allotted time, one (1) point for every two (2) minutes late will be deducted.

#### C. Overall Ranking

- Each team will incur a corresponding point for every winning and participation in each station.
- Total points will be calculated for the overall ranking.
- Teams will be ranked according to the number of points accumulated.
- The following pointing system will be followed for each station:

PLACE	POINTS
FIRST	5
SECOND	4
THIRD	3
FOURTH	2
FIFTH	1
PARTICIPANT	0.5

- The three teams with the highest accumulated points shall be declared winners: 1st Place, 2nd Place, and 3rd Place, respectively.
  - 1st Runner-Up: plaque (school), medals (students), certificate of recognition(students and coach) and cash prize (2,000.00)
  - 1st Runner-Up: medals, certificate of recognition and cash prize (1,500.00)
  - 2nd Runner-Up: medals, certificate of recognition and cash prize (1,200.00)

## II. THE LAST ELEMENT STANDING: ESCAPE THE LAB (DEPED, GRADE 5-6)

Pre-registration Link: <https://bit.ly/STEMFestival2026>

Deadline of Pre-Registration: **February 20, 2026**

#### DATE OF COMPETITION:

MARCH 6, 2026 || 8:00 AM - 9:00 PM  
(Registration and Orientation)

MARCH 6, 2026 || 9:00 AM - 2:30 PM  
(Contest Proper)

#### VENUE OF COMPETITION:

School Grounds/ Computer Laboratory

*For inquiries, contact Ms. Franz Jeramienne B. Lacangan at lacanganfb@irc.pshs.edu.ph*

**The Last Element Standing: Escape the Lab** is a collaborative, station-based learning game designed to assess students' laboratory safety awareness, chemistry knowledge, problem-solving skills, and teamwork.

#### A. Participants:

- Each participating school may send a single team of **five (5) members** composed of 3 Grade 5 and 2 Grade 6 pupils to complete a series of challenges across **seven (7)**

**stations.** The team that completes all tasks first will be declared the winner. This is a team competition.

## **B. Game Setup**

1. The game consists of **seven (7) stations**, each with a specific task
2. A **password-protected file** is used to unlock clues and instructions for the next station
3. Questions will deal mainly with the following:
  - Properties and Changes of Matter
  - Physical and Chemical Changes
  - Physical Properties and Chemical Properties
  - Proper Disposal of Waste/Solid Waste Management
  - Properties of Materials and Their Ability as a Medium of Energy
  - Chemistry and Weather
  - Chemistry and the Lithosphere
  - Mixtures and their Characteristics
  - Separating Mixtures
  - Transformation of Energy
  - Do's and Don'ts Inside the Laboratory

## **C. MECHANICS**

For each station, the following sequence applies:

1. **Chemistry Question**
  - a. The team is given a chemistry-related question or puzzle.
  - b. The correct answer corresponds to a **code or password**.
2. **Password Entry**
  - a. The team enters the code into a **password-sensitive file**.
  - b. Passwords are case-sensitive and must be entered exactly.
3. **Clue and Task Reveal**
  - a. Upon successful entry, the file reveals:
    - i. The next station location
    - ii. The task or challenge to be completed
    - iii. Additional clues or constraints
4. **Station Task Execution**
  - a. The team rushes to the indicated station.
  - b. Members perform the required task (e.g., identification, simulation, matching, calculation, or demonstration).
  - c. External help (books, phones, internet, or other teams) is not allowed unless explicitly stated.
5. **Validation**
  - a. A facilitator checks the task output or performance.
  - b. If successful, the team receives the next chemistry question.
  - c. If unsuccessful, the team must retry until the task is correctly completed.
  - d. The game runs continuously until a team completes all seven stations.
6. Any safety violation may result in:
  - a. Time penalties/Immediate task reset
  - b. Disqualification in severe cases
7. The team that **successfully completes all seven stations** following all rules and safety protocols will be hailed as "**The Last Element Standing**" and declared the winner of the game.
  - 1st Runner-Up: plaque (school), medals (students), certificate of recognition (students and coach) and cash prize (3,000.00)
  - 1st Runner-Up: medals, certificate of recognition and cash prize (2,300.00)
  - 2nd Runner-Up: medals, certificate of recognition and cash prize (1,800.00)